



**CITY OF BURLINGTON**  
**Committee of the Whole Minutes**  
**Robert Miller, Mayor**  
**Diahnn Halbach, City Clerk**  
**Tuesday, October 20, 2015**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Robert Miller called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. starting with roll call. Aldermen present: Ed Johnson, Bob Grandi, Ruth Dawidziak, Jon Schultz, Tom Preusker, and Todd Bauman. Excused: John Ekes and Tom Vos.

Also present: City Administrator Carina Walters, City Attorney John Bjelajac, Treasurer and Budget Officer Steven DeQuaker, Police Chief Mark Anderson, Fire Chief Perry Howard, Building Inspector and Zoning Administrator Gregory Guidry and Tom Foht of Kapur and Associates.

**2. Citizens Comments and Questions**

None

**3. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2015**

A motion was made by Johnson with a second by Dawidziak to approve the minutes from October 6, 2015. With all in favor, the motion carried to approve the minutes.

**4. Topic: Discussion regarding status, limitations and solutions for the intersection of Pine Street and the Burlington Bypass.**

Administrator Walters stated she has been in discussions with Stacey Pierce of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding this topic. Ms. Pierce has indicated the City could do a speed analysis of that corridor; however, past studies have shown reducing the speed limit has not helped off-set accidents. Ms. Pierce suggested the City look into grant opportunities, such as grants for overtime associated with speed monitoring. In light of the recent accidents, the DOT is willing to look into options and recommendations with this stretch of the Bypass. Walters further stated this corridor of the Bypass is difficult as it is a State highway within Town of Burlington and City of Burlington boundaries.

Schultz questioned if more accidents occur on the Bypass rather than Pine Street. Chief Anderson stated most accidents are on the Bypass. Schultz further stated that the intersection of Pine Street and the Bypass was designed awkwardly where it is difficult to see until you enter it and would like the DOT to take that into consideration when they do a study and make recommendations. Anderson stated he would relay that to the DOT. Anderson further stated the last three accidents in that area were due to speed. Based off of experience, he feels reducing the speed would not prevent accidents, especially if someone purposely exceeds the speed limit.

Dawidziak thanked staff for looking into options and recommends the City stay proactive as we owe it to the people to keep them safe. Dawidziak further questioned if the Town of Burlington was on board with the speed study. Walters said they are and feel it is worthwhile to look into.

Preusker stated he is curious what the results of the speed study will show as he drives the Whitewater bypass weekly and hasn't heard of any problems there.

Grandi inquired that if the stoplights should be looked at if lowering the speed wouldn't help. Anderson stated the speed study would not include analysis of the stoplights. He further stated most of the accidents have occurred in the winter months due to the weather.

There were no further comments.

**5. Topic: Discussion regarding restricting residential parking in the front, side, and street yards.**

Mayor Miller introduced this discussion stating this item was first introduced in 2010 prior to the alternate overnight parking ordinance being enacted.

Bauman stated he felt the draft ordinance presented was a good starting point, but it should be more comprehensive to include areas such as storage of tires.

Schultz stated he does not like putting restrictions on property owners, but would like to see this as a package with other property maintenance amendments. He does not want to see changes come in pieces before the Council. He further stated he understands the concept of the ordinance; however, the City should be very careful telling people what they can do with their own property. Attorney Bjelajac responded that he does not recommend policy changes all at once or some items could get lost in the ordinance.

Grandi felt this item was long overdue to improve the aesthetics of the city, but questioned the \$50 fine for non-compliance. Walters responded that the draft ordinance was from 2010 and would need to be reviewed.

Johnson stated he doesn't care what someone does to their own lawn, but does not want it to affect the neighboring properties.

John Hansen, 424 Garfield Street, stated he attended the September 1, 2015 meeting requesting the City look into prohibiting parking in the front yard. He further stated his family has many drivers that have been compliant with parking ordinances and not parking in the yard. He requested the Council amend the ordinance and increase the fine amount as soon as possible.

Mayor Miller stated an amended ordinance will be brought back to the November 3, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting. There were no further comments.

**6. Topic: Resolution 4748(22) to consider authorizing permission to the RCEDC to submit a WI Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) Community Development Investment (CDI) grant application for the downtown redevelopment project being undertaken by WIN Properties, LLC at 425 N. Pine Street.**

Mayor Miller introduced Resolution 4748(22) and then opened it up for discussion.

Alderman Schultz recused himself at 6:55 pm and joined the audience.

Tina Chitwood of Racine County Economic Development Corporation (RCEDC) stated Shad Branen of WIN Properties, LLC is requesting the City apply for a WEDC grant on behalf of him. She further explained that

the City has to be the applicant, but would only be a pass-through agent for the funds. The grant dollars would be used for construction costs and no City funds would be necessary.

There were no comments.

Schultz rejoined the meeting at 6:58 pm

7. **Topic:** Resolution 4749(23) to consider approving the purchase of a boiler system for the Police Department in the amount of \$36,580 and \$830 for the removal and demolition of the existing expansion tank for a total of \$37,680 from Just Service, Inc.

Mayor Miller introduced Resolution 4749(23) and then opened it up for discussion.

Preusker questioned if a higher efficiency unit costs more. Anderson responded that it does. Preusker further questioned that since the funds being used for the boiler were originally earmarked for a backup generator, will the generator last. Anderson stated the generator is not original to the building and was put in the Capital Improvement Plan by the former chief as a proactive measure.

Grandi questioned how the request for bids was advertised since many were not local. Walters responded that staff will typically put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) to various avenues such as the website and VendorNet, as well as send to local businesses as applicable.

There were no further comments.

8. Ordinance 1999(5) to consider amending the Official Zoning Map for property located at 457 Milwaukee Avenue to rezone from B-2, Central Business District to I-1, Institutional District.  
Mayor Miller introduced Ordinance 1999(5) and then opened it up for discussion.

John Thorngate on behalf of Life Bridge Church gave an overview of the project to be put in the former Bigelow Appliance building. He explained Life Bridge Church plans to be a vibrant part of the downtown and wants to put down roots in Burlington. He further stated they will be doing a complete renovation of the building and restore the façade to its original appearance. Eric Halbur of Abacus Architects stated they will be basing the façade on old pictures of the building and will be bringing the interior of the building up to code.

Schultz questioned what the plan was for parking. Mr. Thorngate responded that they have an agreement with Reineman's True Value to use their parking lot during times of service and meetings.

Grandi stated it is encouraging to see the youthful energy from the applicants, but questioned what would happen with the building if it is rezoned and they move out. Mayor Miller responded that the parcel can always be rezoned back to Commercial in the future and follow the same procedure as this.

Schultz questioned what the tax deficit would be if this parcel was zoned to Institutional. Walters stated the 2014 tax bill was approximately \$4,400. Schultz further stated he supports this project, likes that they will be upgrading the building and that he is excited that it will draw people downtown.

Keith Pollek, 353 Pickett Court, echoed Alderman Schultz and supports the project. He stated he is excited about youth having another positive environment to go to.

There were no further comments.

9. **Topic:** Ordinance 2000(6) to consider amending the Racine County Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for property located at 457 Milwaukee Avenue.

Mayor Miller introduced Ordinance 2000(6) and then opened it up for discussion. There were no comments.

**10. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Dawidziak with a second by Bauman to adjourn the meeting. With all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

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Megan E. Watkins  
Director of Administrative Services